(c) Under the NRHM, support for improving the physical infrastructure including augmenting the manpower is a core strategy. All the CHCs are proposed to be upgraded to the level of Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS). The implementation Framework of the Mission envisages facility survey of all CHCs and detailed estimation of costing of the upgradation proposal. Simultaneously, initiatives for augmenting the available manpower as per IPHS are also to be undertaken. The funds required for the upgradation project is proposed to be made available to the states in phases.

(d) During 2005-06, a total amount of Rs. 38.40 crore was released to the state of Madhya Pradesh for upgradation of 192 CHCs.

During 2006-07, total amount of Rs. 7.4 crore was released to the state of Madhya Pradesh for upgradation of 37 CHCs.

Bird flu vaccine

1865. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian scientists have developed a vaccine for bird flu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether clinical tests have been carried out and the targeted date for release in the market?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) As per information received from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Indian scientists have developed a poultry vaccine for bird flu. The killed vaccine has been developed using H5N1 field strains virus isolated from recent outbreaks in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Experimental studies were conducted to assess its efficacy and potency. This vaccine gave a good protective antibody titre. Tests have been conducted in the laboratory and experimental batches of this vaccine have been produced in the laboratory. Steps have been initiated to make the availability of the indigenous poultry vaccine and to transfer the technology of vaccine production to those interested in commercial production having containment conditions required for handling such virus.

There is no vaccine for human cases of Avian Influenza [bird flu].